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RECIPIENT FOR: Gen. Robert Cutler, Special Assistant
to the President

SUBJECT : Critical Intelligence Reporting
REFERENCE : Your Memorandum of June 7, 1958

1. Subparagraph (a) of the referenced letter requests a report on the progress being made by the intelligence community in the development of a system for the more rapid processing of items of a critical intelligence nature. This action is being taken in implementation of a recommendation by the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities to the effect that the intelligence community establish a better system for the handling of "early warning" intelligence. The critical intelligence reporting system (described in the IAC Critical Intelligence Report dated 29 April 1958) is expected to be in operation on or about 15 July 1958. On that date IAC member agencies will begin reporting selected critical intelligence directly to Washington using their present communications facilities, pending the completion of the plan by the Department of Defense on a transmission system for critical intelligence items. The changes that will be made on 15 July are expected to reduce markedly the processing time now required for critical intelligence.

2. I understand that the Secretary of Defense will be advising you separately as to the status of the Department of Defense communications plan for insuring the transmission of critical intelligence.

SIGNED

C. P. Cutler
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

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